



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,487	06/08/2005	Edmund W.M. Poh	A1-231 US	2274
23683	7590	05/16/2006	EXAMINER	
MOLEX INCORPORATED 2222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532			LE, THANH TAM T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,487

Applicant(s)

POH ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Abstract.

1. New abstract should be submitted.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-16 are objected to because:

Claim 1, line 4, "each said rib" should be changed -- each said ribs --;

line 5, "housing base wall" should be changed -- housing base walls --;

line 6, "first rib portion" should be changed -- first rib portions --;

lines 7 and 8, "each said slot" should be changed -- each said slots --;

line 7, "second rib portion" should be changed -- second rib portions --;

line 11, "each said terminal" lacks an antecedent basis.

Claim 2, line 2, "terminals" lacks an antecedent basis.

Claims 3, line 1, claim 5, line 1, claim 6, line 1, claim 7, line 1, and claim 10, lines 7 and 8, "each said terminal" lacks an antecedent basis.

Claim 3, lines 4 and 5, respective ones of said terminal base walls being positioned within a respectively second slot portion" are confusing, which's element is respectively ones?

Claim 5, lines 2 and 3, "said second terminal means" lacks an antecedent basis.

Claim 9, line 2, "adjacent ribs" should be changed --said adjacent ribs--

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-2, 10 and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DiViesti et al. (5,411,408).

Regarding claims 1 and 17-18, DiViesti et al., figure 5 shows a connector comprising:

- a housing (16) including a first and a second base wall (a FIGURE A below), a plurality of ribs (the FIGURE A below) extending from the housing and spaced apart from each other such that a slot (22) is defined between adjacent ribs, each the ribs including a first rib portion and a second rib portion (the FIGURE A below) extending from a first direction and a second opposite direction, and a first slot portion, a second slot portion, respectively, from each the housing base walls; and
- at least one terminal (28) positioned within each the slots and connected to the housing such that a surface area (32a) of said at least terminal is exposed to the environment and air can flow over the surface area to dissipate heat from the at least one terminal.

Regarding claim 2, wherein the at least one terminal is positioned within a respective first and second slot portions.

Regarding claim 10, the housing including a central wall (the FIGURE A below) and the first and second housing base walls are connected to the housing central wall to define a first and a second aperture (not labeled).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 3-9, 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiViesti et al. (5,411,408) in view of Eledge et al. (3,199,066).

DiViesti discloses the claimed invention as described above except for the at least one terminal comprising a base wall, a first and a second terminal portion.

Eledge et al., figure 1 shows a terminal (10) including a base wall (11), a first and a second terminal portion (12a and 12b) extending from the base wall in the same direction. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide DiViesti to have the terminal, as taught by Eledge et al. for better engagement.

Regarding claims 4, 12, DiViesti discloses the housing including a central wall (the FIGURE A below) and the first and second housing base walls are connected to the housing central wall to define a first and a second aperture (not labeled).

Regarding claim 5, DiViesti discloses the at least one terminal further including means (34) for connecting the terminal to an associated printed circuit board

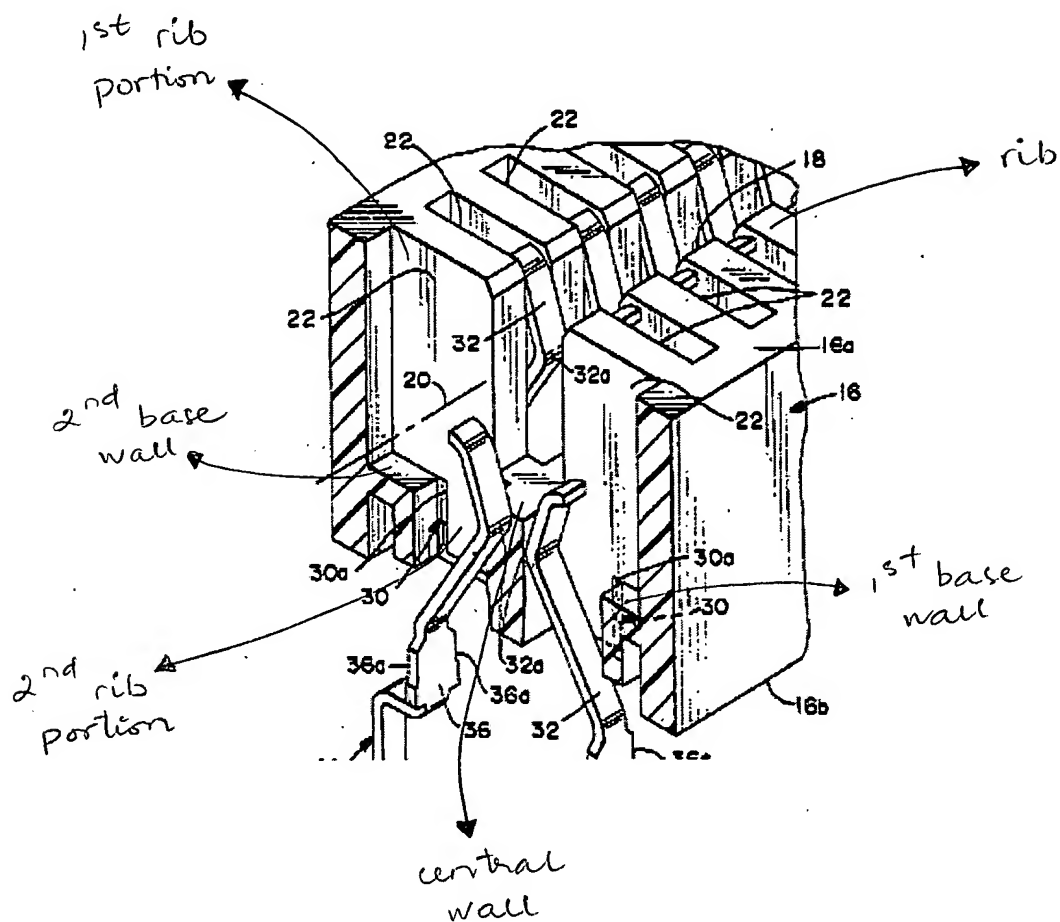
Regarding claim 6, DiViesti discloses the at least one terminal including means (not labeled) for connecting the terminal to the housing.

Regarding claim 7, it is noted that Eledge et al. disclose the at least one terminal including an enlarged head on first and the second terminal portions, respectively.

Regarding claims 8, 13, DiViesti discloses each of the first and the second apertures is wider than a width of the first and second terminal portions.

Regarding claims 9, 11, 14-16, DiViesti and Eledge et al. disclose the claimed invention as described above except for two terminals are provided between the adjacent ribs. It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide DiViesti to have two terminals, since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable involves only routine skill in the art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980) since such change solves no stated problem.

FIGURE A



Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

Art Unit: 2839

8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thanh-Tam T. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2839

TL.
05/13/06.